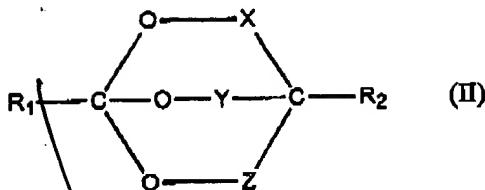


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wherein

X and Z are independently selected from linear or branched alk(en)ylene groups with 1-4 carbon atoms optionally containing an oxygen or a nitrogen atom;

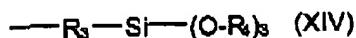
Y is nothing or is selected independently of X and Z from linear or branched alk(en)ylene groups with 1-4 carbon atoms optionally containing an oxygen or a nitrogen atom;

one of R₁ and R₂ is selected from the group of monovalent radicals comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, alk(en)yl groups comprising 1-30 carbon atoms which are linear or branched and optionally contain one or more hetero atoms and groups selected from the group of oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, and ester;

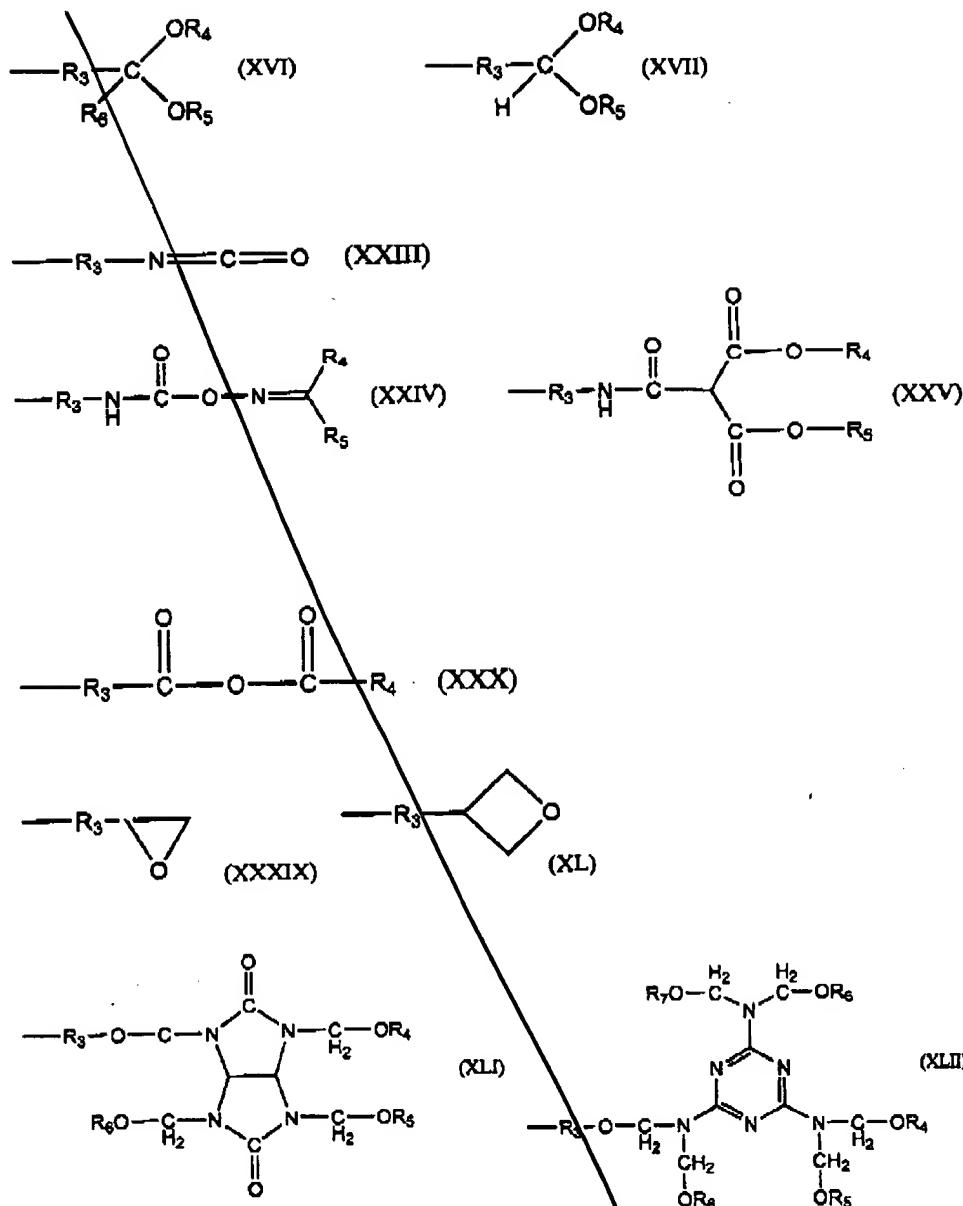
the other of R₁ and R₂ is selected from the group of divalent radicals comprising alk(en)ylene groups having 1-10 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched and contain one or more hetero atoms and groups selected from the group of oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, and ester;

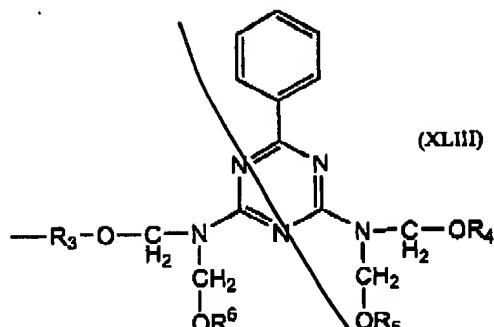
B is selected from the group of divalent radicals comprising aromatic, aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, and araliphatic hydrocarbon groups having 1-40 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched and contain one or more hetero atoms and groups selected from the group of oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, phosphorus, sulphone, sulphonyl, amine, amide, urea, urethane, and ester; ester groups; ether groups; amide groups; thioester groups; thioamide groups; urethane groups; and urea groups;

C is a hydroxyl reactive functional group selected from the following formulae



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Al Cunell

wherein R_3 is selected from the group of alk(en)ylene groups having 1-10 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched and optionally contain one or more groups selected from the group of ether, ester, urea, urethane, amide, and amine, and R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are independently from each other selected from the group of alk(en)yl groups having 1-10 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched.

Sgt P

10. A coating composition comprising a compound comprising at least one bicyclo-orthoester group having latent hydroxyl groups and at least one other functional group represented by the following formula I

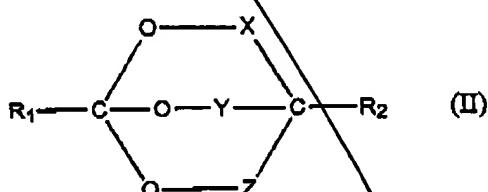


Al Cunell

wherein

x and *y* are independently selected from 1 to 10;

A has the structure according to the following formula II



Al Cunell

wherein

X and *Z* are independently from each other selected from linear or branched alk(en)ylene groups with 1-4 carbon atoms optionally containing an oxygen or a nitrogen atom;

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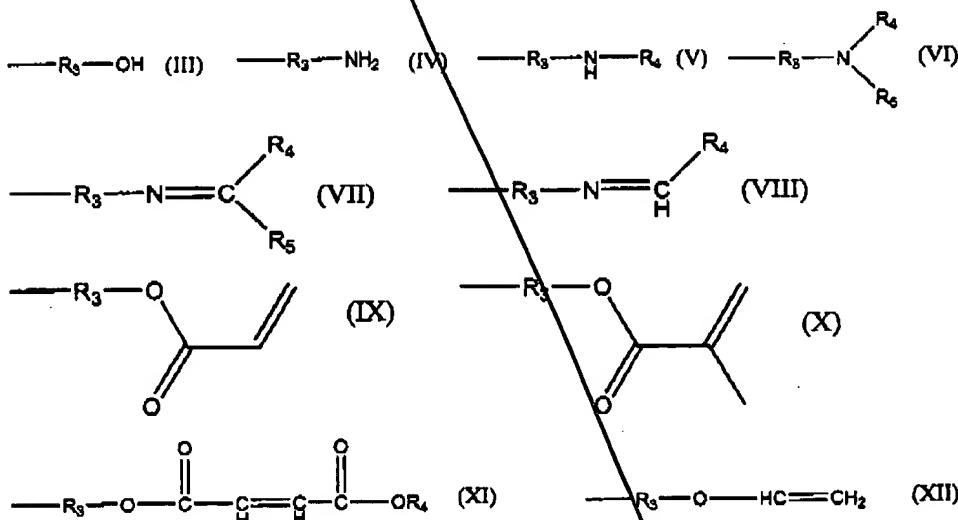
~~Y is nothing or is selected independently of X and Z from linear or branched alk(en)ylene groups with 1-4 carbon atoms optionally containing an oxygen or a nitrogen atom;~~

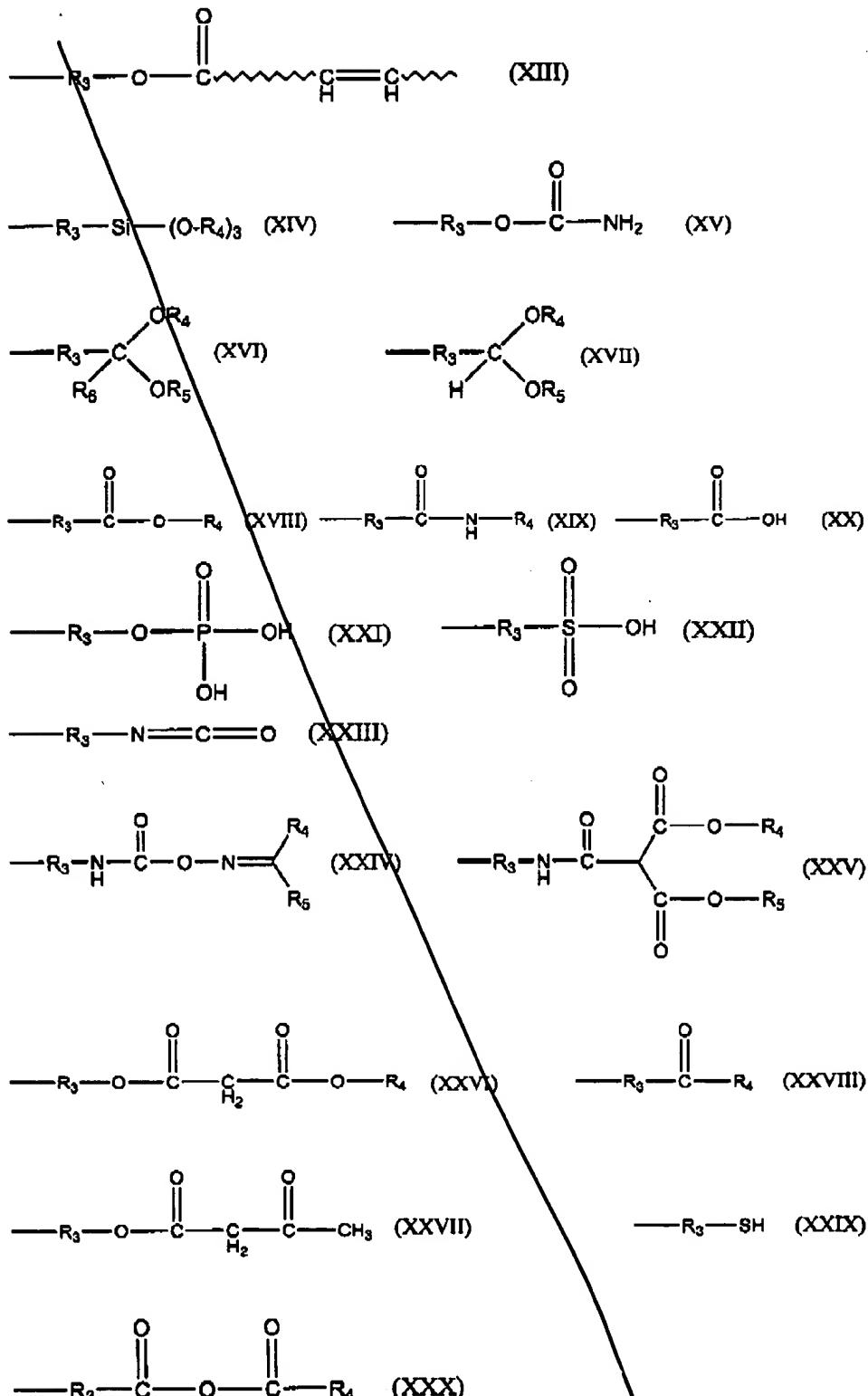
~~one of R₁ and R₂ is selected from the group of monovalent radicals comprising hydrogen, hydroxyl, alk(en)yl groups comprising 1-30 carbon atoms which are linear or branched and optionally contain one or more hetero atoms and groups selected from the group of oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, and ester;~~

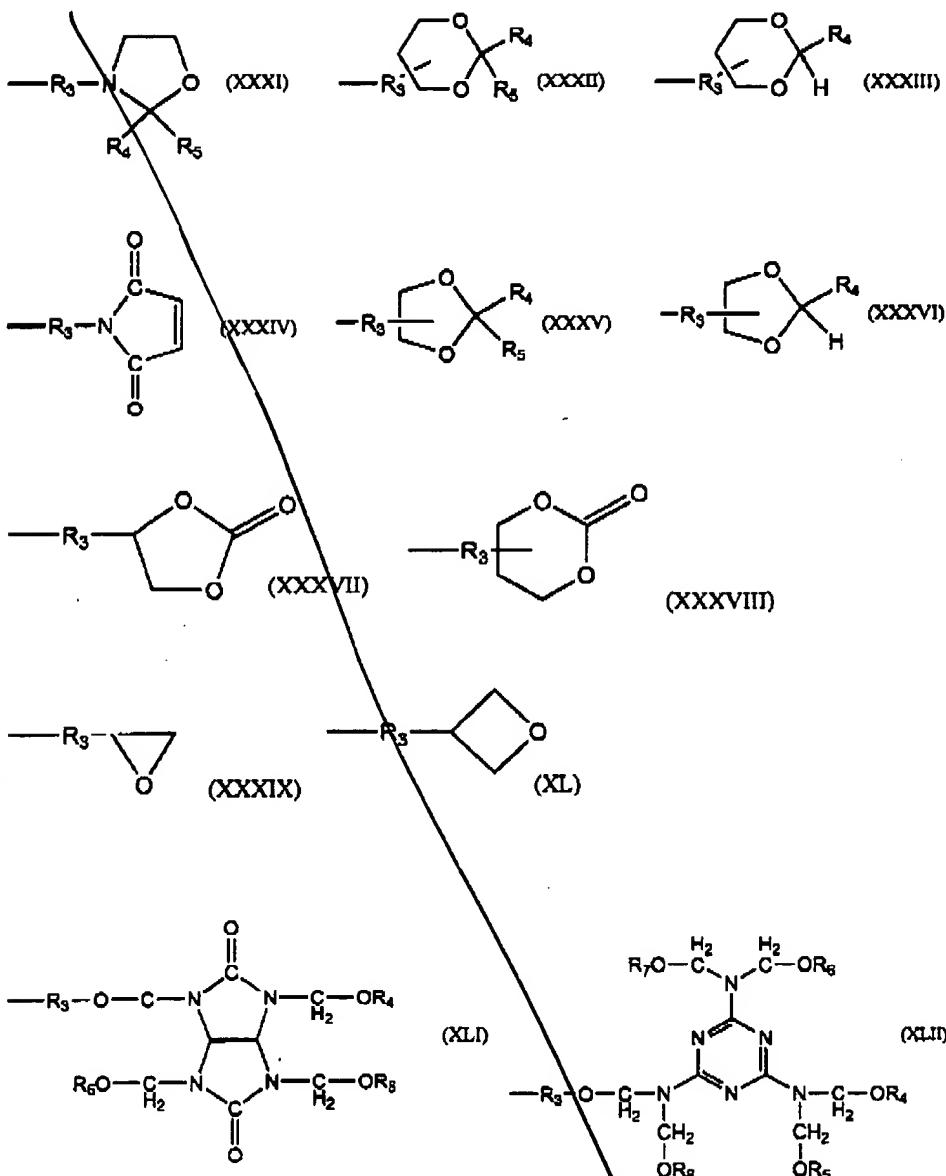
~~the other of R₁ and R₂ is selected from the group of divalent radicals comprising alk(en)ylene groups having 1-10 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched and contain one or more hetero atoms and groups selected from the group of oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, and ester;~~

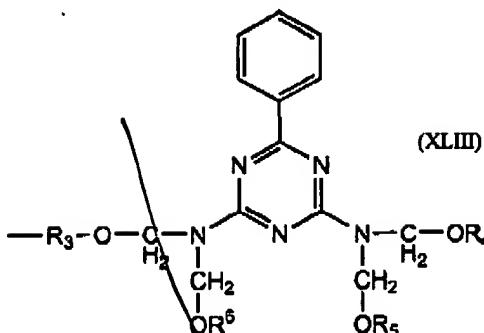
~~B is selected from the group of divalent radicals comprising aromatic, aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, and araliphatic hydrocarbon groups having 1-40 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched and contain one or more hetero atoms and groups selected from the group of oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, phosphorus, sulphone, sulphonyl, amine, amide, urea, urethane, and ester; ester groups; ether groups; amide groups; thioester groups; thioamide groups; urethane groups; and urea groups;~~

~~C is a functional group selected from the following formulae III-XLIII~~



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a2

wherein R_3 is selected from the group of alk(en)ylene groups having 1-10 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched and optionally contain one or more groups selected from the group of ether, ester, urea, urethane, amide, and amine, and R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are independently from each other selected from the group of alk(en)yl groups having 1-10 carbon atoms which groups are linear or branched, wherein the coating composition comprises a second compound comprising at least two hydroxyl reactive groups selected from the group of isocyanate, epoxy, acetal, carboxyl, anhydride, and alkoxy silane groups, or the second compound is an amino resin.

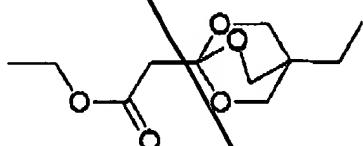
11. A coating composition according to claim 10 wherein the second compound comprising at least two hydroxyl reactive groups is an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic compound comprising at least two isocyanate groups or adducts thereof.
12. A coating composition according to claim 11 wherein the second compound comprising at least two hydroxyl reactive groups is an isocyanurate.
13. A process for curing a coating composition according to claim 1 wherein the latent hydroxyl groups of the bicyclo-orthoester groups are deblocked in the presence of water, optionally in the presence of a first catalyst, and

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reacted with the hydroxyl-reactive groups of the first compound, optionally in the presence of a second catalyst.

a²

14. A process for the preparation of a compound comprising at least one bicyclo-orthoester group and at least one other functional group according to the formula



in which a compound having at least one corresponding oxetane group is converted in the presence of a catalytic amount of dibutyl tin oxide at a temperature above 180°C.

Please delete pending claim 15 without prejudice.

Please add the following claims:

S.1
a³

16. A coating composition according to claim 10 wherein X, Y, and Z are methylene.

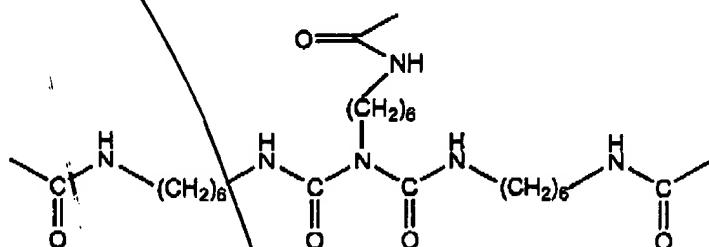
17. A coating composition according to claim 10 wherein one of R₁ and R₂ is a monovalent radical selected from the group of linear or branched alk(en)yl groups having 1-20 carbon atoms.

18. A coating composition according to claim 17 wherein the monovalent radical is selected from the group of methyl and ethyl.

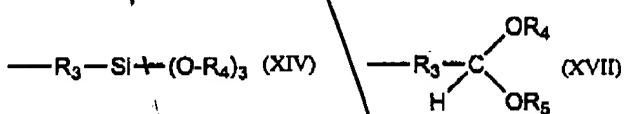
19. A coating composition according to claim 17 wherein the other of R₁ and R₂ is -O-C₁₋₁₀-.

20. A coating composition according to claim 10 wherein B is derived from an organic polyisocyanate compound.

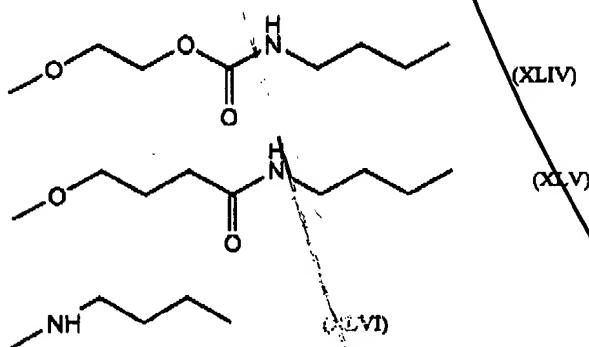
21. A coating composition according to claim 20 wherein the organic polyisocyanate is the biuret of hexamethylene diisocyanate and B has the following chemical structure



22. A coating composition according to claim 10 wherein C is selected from the formulae XIV and XVII



23. A coating composition according to claim 22 wherein R₄ and R₅ are methyl or ethyl and R₃ is a group selected from the following formulae XLIV-XLVI



24. A process for curing a coating composition according to claim 10 wherein the latent hydroxyl groups of the bicyclo-orthoester groups are deblocked in the presence of water, optionally in the presence of a first catalyst, and reacted with the hydroxyl reactive groups of the first